

Africa - 1919
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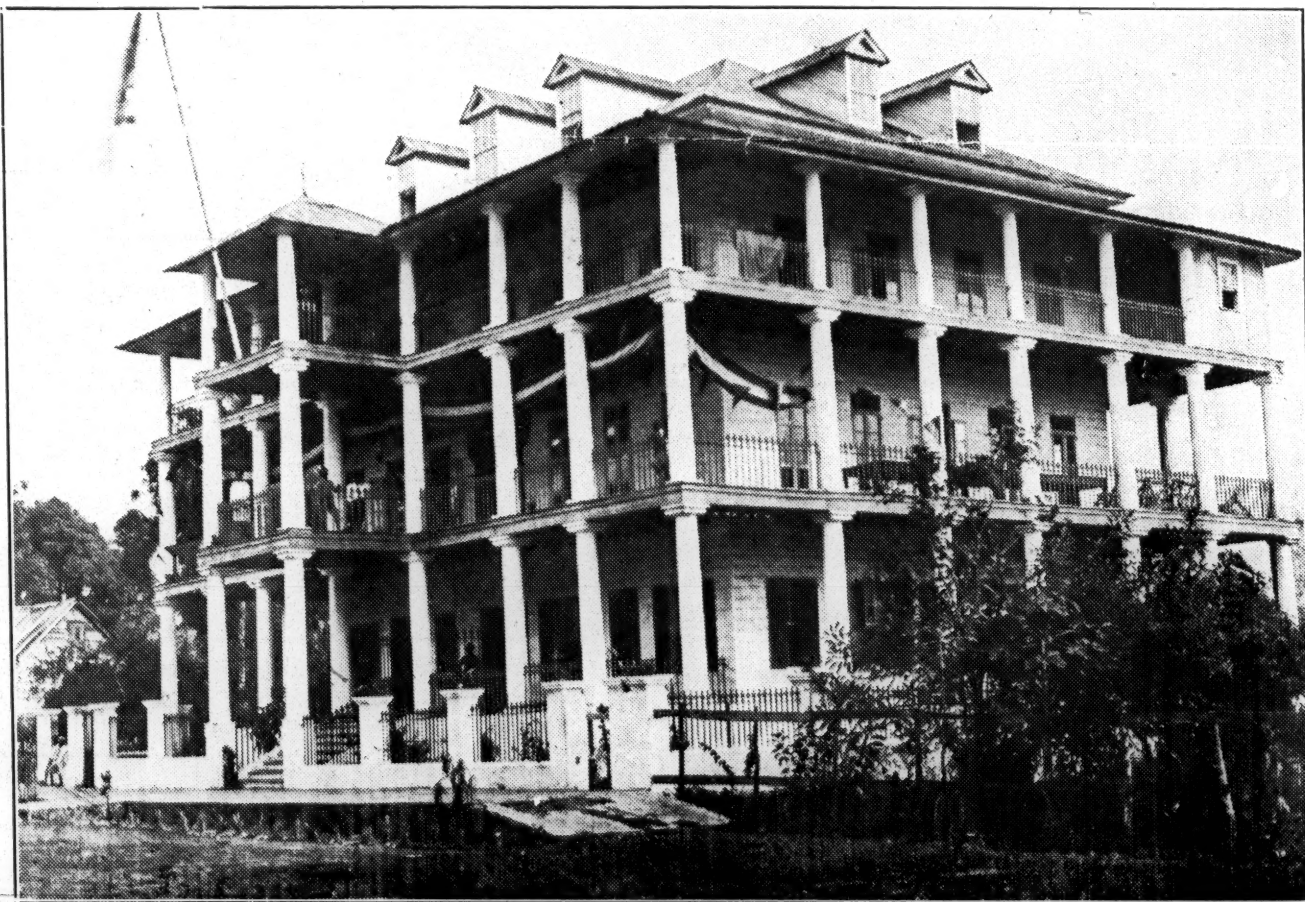
THE FOUNDATION

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NEW EXECUTIVE MANSION, MONROVIA, LIBERIA

The Executive Mansion as shown above, is the residence of the President of the Republic of Liberia, the Hon. Daniel E. Howard, who took the oath of office January 1, 1912. Mr. Howard is the third native son of Liberia to become its President. He is proud of his race and country and may be regarded as the strongest single factor in the country. The history of Liberia covers a period from 1821 until the present. It was in 1824 that the name of Liberia was officially adopted and Monrovia, the capital, was named at the same time. The Republic of Liberia as an independent sovereignty was established in 1847, and the first President elected in October of that year. Since the formal declaration of independence, about twelve men have graced the office of President. The general plan of government is patterned after that of the United States.

While it has had much to contend with and conditions are yet very crude, there are many evidences of a new day which their part in the war and at the peace table will serve to hasten. Already the recent loan from the United States of five millions is bearing fruit in a project for improved harbors, and a new highway across the republic. A railroad is also in the plan, and the new day is actually coming to Liberia. This is the time for more aggressive work by the church. If we would keep pace with advancement in the state we must have better church and school equipment, a larger corps of workers, and give

There is no greater promise of return for the investment than in Liberia. It is the key to the heart of Africa.

Africa - 1919

Current Thomas Civil Engineer Is Going to Liberia On Government Work

Thomasville, Ga., January 18.—(Special.)—T. C. Mitchell, a former Thomasville boy who has been visiting relatives here, has gone to Washington, D. C., from where he will leave in an early steamer for Liberia, Africa, going as commissioner for the subdividing and developing of the hinterlands of that country. Three years ago the government of Liberia wrote to the United States government asking for the services of one of the best civil engineers in the employment of this government for the purpose of representing the Liberian government in the work of measuring the boundary line between Liberia and the French possessions in Africa, the latter government to be represented by a French engineer.

In a competitive examination for the position Mr. Mitchell won out and received the appointment. After waiting in Liberia for some months it was found that owing to war conditions the French government would be unable to send an engineer, so that work could not be done. At the request of the Liberian government Mr. Mitchell consented to take charge of the Liberian troops and attempt the subjugation of the hostile tribes of the country that had been giving much trouble.

Some of these tribes were cannibals and all very savage, but Mr. Mitchell's work in subdividing them was so satisfactory that his services were engaged for another year. He was the only white man in that section and some of his adventures were of the hairbreadth sort and would make wonderful reading.

When the United States entered the world war, Mr. Mitchell felt that his place was in the ranks of his country and wanted to start home at once. The Liberian government refused to release him until his contract was out, however, but just as soon as it was out and he could secure passage back to the United States he came, and went into training for the army.

With the war ended the Liberian government at once took up the matter of again engaging Mr. Mitchell's services, and though he much preferred to stay in his own country, so much was brought to bear on him and the offer was made so very remunerative, that he has finally accepted. In returning, Mr. Mitchell will be allowed to take four white men back with him. Each of these men will be placed over a district, or state, and Mr. Mitchell will have supervision of the whole. He will also act as commander-in-chief of the Liberian army. It is a great undertaking for a young man, as Mr. Mitchell is not yet 30 years old, but he has shown an ability that means success in his undertaking.

In speaking of his return to Liberia, Mr. Mitchell seemed more interested in again seeing a pet baboon he had left there than in anything else. The baboon had been trained by him and he thinks that in intelligence he is not far behind many humans. Mr. Mitchell's contract with Liberia is for two years.

OPEN PARCEL POST SERVICE TO LIBERIA

Beginning at once, parcel post packages addressed to Liberia will be received by the postoffice throughout the United States. They will be delivered as soon as steamship facilities between New York and Monrovia are available.

The rate on these packages will be 12 cents per pound and the weight of packages will be limited to 11 pounds. Any packages received from Liberia in the future that cannot be delivered will be returned to that country in 30 days after they are received.

THE NEGRO REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

When the negro Republic of Liberia appeared at Paris, knocking at the door of the Peace Conference, and begging that America be named the mandatory to take over Liberia for the League of Nations,

the end of an interesting social and political dream had been reached. As a matter of fact Liberia, the black republic, has not been able to walk alone for several years; as far back as 1909, the American government, acting in general agreement with France, Great Britain and Germany, took charge of the finances, military organizations, agriculture and boundary questions of the Republic. A loan of two million dollars for the impoverished government was arranged at that time. Englishmen were called in to man the custom service and to keep the tottering republic on its feet. Since the great war, Liberia and its affairs have been a closed book to the world; the attention of the world has been drawn by graver affairs.

But if Liberia is at Paris asking that its independence be again submerged and this time under a mandatory government, affairs have not been going well with the negro republic which set up house-keeping with the good wishes of the entire world.

Liberia has a favorable location on the northwestern coast of Africa. It extends for three hundred miles along this coast between the British colony of Sierra Leone and the French colony of the Ivory Coast. Its greatest depth is about 200 miles. Its population is a little more than two million, or a little less than that of the State of Alabama. But a full two million of that population is made up of African natives mainly of the Kru tribe, most of whom live in the original state of African savagery.

The ruling class and the better element of the population consists of about 15,000 negroes of Americo-Liberian origin, the descendants of the original settlers from America. In addition there is another class consisting of about 40,000 native African negroes who have been christianized and partly civilized, who united with the Li-

berians of American descent in the frequent political and war-like clashes with the natives on the interior.

Liberia, as an independent republic, is but a little less than a hundred years old. If its actual independence ends at Paris, it will be a coincidence that the African republic, which had its origin in American idealism, finally found its end in American idealism. In the remote year of 1821, Cape Mesurado, on the Liberian coast, was selected as a colony for American negroes, by the American Colonization Society. This society was made up of abolitionists who wished a country where freed American slaves could go, inasmuch as they were not admitted to citizenship, at that time, in America. From 1821, until now, there have been frequent migrations of American negroes to Liberia, but at no time has the migration been large.

On the other hand many of the American negroes, after trying life in Liberia, have made sacrifices to get back to the comforts of American civilization. The emigrants to Liberia have consisted of freed slaves, negroes and mulattoes, and since 1860, it is said only two or three thousand American negroes have crossed the Atlantic to take up life in Liberia.

The Liberian Republic has not been the success promised for it. It has been involved in many difficulties. The civilized negroes have found it difficult to keep from being submerged by the flood of savage humanity from the interior. There are but few evidences of civilization except along the coast, where European vessels frequently touch and where the Americo-Liberians struggle to keep the government going.

A little more than ten years, as a result of disorders and helplessness, the French began to encroach upon Liberian territory and to add strips here and there to their French colonies. These territorial encroachments aroused much resentment in the world, for contrary to general belief, the helpless people of the world get more sympathy and more help from the outside than do the sturdy self-reliant people. President Roosevelt, encouraged by American negroes, took up the quarrel of Liberia in 1909 and secured the agreement with France, Great Britain and Germany under which everybody promised to keep off of the Liberian territory and America made her a loan of two million dollars.

The recorded history of the black republic, helped to its feet, encouraged and sustained by the American government, yet barely able to stand, while it is threatened at all times by the savage tribes from the interior, would be an interesting study. It is evident that Liberia in 1919 is no more

able to support itself and to sustain itself than it was in 1821. Liberia, in one respect, is like a great many small nations in history, which have been set on their feet by stronger powers—they have tottered when the sustaining hand was withdrawn. But the sustaining hand has been given to Liberia all these years and yet she comes to Paris seeking still further support.

LIBERIA'S DELEGATE NEW PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC

PARIS, Jan. 12.—The Liberian legation announces the election of C. D. B. King, President of the republic, who is now in Paris, as the first Liberian peace delegate.

President of Liberia to Speak at Pittsburgh

PARIS, June 12.—Queen Marie of Romania and C. D. B. King, president of Liberia, as well as many other distinguished representatives of countries participating in the peace conference, have consented to address the third world's Christian citizenship conference at Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 9 to 16. Dr. Policarpo Bonilla, formerly president of Honduras, also will attend.

COURT STOPS GARVEY'S STOCK SELLING SCHEME

The curtain in the second act of the drama staged by "Addo" Marcus Garvey, president general of the Black Star line, was rung down by Attorney General Brundage through his assistant, Raymond S. Pruitt, at Harrison street police court last Thursday when Garvey was convicted of violating the blue sky law and fined \$100 and costs by Judge Howard Hayes. Judge Hayes warned Garvey against issuing stock and demanded that he return money to people who had listened to his entreaties. Garvey, through his attorney, W. E. Mollison, pleaded ignorance of the law and accepted a fine.

The money obtained from stock buyers, amounting to \$95 was ordered returned to its original owners by the attorney general also. Letters to this effect have been mailed to Oldern Bryant, Lewis Howard, Alfred Miller, Grant Jefferson, Samuel Smith and Richard Mangun demanding that they surrender their certificates, which are now regarded as worthless.

LAW IS STILL ON MARK GARVEY'S TRAIL

The Defender
Marcus Begs District Attorney to

Eject Defender Reporter From
Hearing; Black Star Line Objects
of Kilroe's Verbal "Torpedos"
Move to Expel Garvey From the
Country as Undesirable Alien

New York, Sept. 26.—Marcus Garvey and his clerical force of the Universal Negro Improvement Association appeared before District Attorney Kilroe Tuesday, September 16th, and was severely grilled as to the possibility and earnestness of himself and his colleagues to launch and operate "The Black Star Line." Kilroe plainly told Garvey that he expects to put him on trial before the Grand Jury, convict and deport him to Jamaica. At the beginning of the hearing Garvey and his attorney, James L. Watson, asked the District Attorney to order Oscar J. Benson, representing The Defender, to leave the room, adding that "The Defender was hostile to this movement."

Mr. Kilroe denied the request, saying that "so far as I am concerned The Defender has a perfect right to appear at this trial." Immediately Kilroe ordered Amy Ashwood, Garvey's secretary, to leave the room and asked the agitator why he dragged his secretary around the country with him. Garvey said that he had personal reasons, that he and his secretary were engaged to be married. "Aren't you afraid of public scandal?" asked Kilroe. Garvey's attorney objected to the personal remark.

Ship Called "The Yamma"
Investigation of papers from the Harris Magill Company, brokers, 50 Broadway, proved the company has a contract signed by the association for a ship called "The Yamma," with a carrying capacity of 1,300 tons, a vessel 32 years old; that \$16,500 had been paid, with a compromise to pay \$83,500 before October 25th. "If Garvey does not pay the balance on that specific date will he and his association lose what they have already paid?" asked the District Attorney of Harris, who owns the ship. The latter replied in the affirmative, adding that \$155,000 is the purchasing price. "Where is the \$30,000 that you told me you had in the treasury," asked Kilroe, as he examined the bank book of the association. "Well we have \$10,000 in the office safe," answered four members. Garvey said that a Brooklyn man had bought \$500 worth, the highest amount of shares sold to any individual. At this point suitcases were opened displaying about one hundred account books which the District Attorney kept for examination. Garvey was allowed to keep his bank book. Attorney for the association offered the District Attorney a retraction, but the latter declined, saying that the thing to do with Garvey is "to convict him and deport him to the West Indian Islands where he belongs." Kilroe told Garvey to be in readiness on Monday to tell the Grand Jury about his personal income.

Actions In West Indies
Garvey was closely questioned about

alleged fleeing of his people in other countries before he came to the United States. Attorney for the association said that the mere fact that Garvey was under the investigation of the District Attorney afforded detriment to the progress of the Black Star Line movement, and that Garvey was losing a lot of valuable time. "Tell that to the Grand Jury," answered Mr. Kilroe. At that point Edgar Grey and Richard E. Warner came in and asked the District Attorney whether they were an issue in the day's proceedings. "You are always an issue," said Kilroe. This caused Garvey to become angry and denounce the newcomers who also charged Garvey with libel. The District Attorney refused to dismiss them, so Garvey's attorney acknowledged that his client was surrounded with enemies, but Mr. Kilroe said that in his efforts to convict Garvey as a shrewd schemer, he is Garvey's sole enemy, and if he fails to convict him, it will not be the fault of the District Attorney.

CULTIVATING COTTON IN SOUTH AFRICA UNION

Washington, October 20.—The cultivation of cotton in the Union of South Africa is attracting a great deal of attention, according to a report from the American vice consul at Cape Town, and during the 1918-19 season the acreage planted to the staple showed a considerable increase over the previous year. During the 1917-18 season approximately 10,000 acres were planted and the yield was estimated at 2,000,000 pounds.

"The union government," says the report, "through the services of an American cotton expert, has been doing everything possible in aiding the farmers to take up this new industry, providing them with seed and teaching them how to adopt the best methods in cultivation and harvesting."

"While the most advanced development has taken place in the Transvaal, during the past year much attention has been directed to the available lands in Zululand, where the increase in some instances has practically doubled."

The first cotton gin in Zululand was installed in September, 1918. It is equipped with an 80-saw gin, with a capacity of 1,500 to 1,600 pounds of line for an eight-hour day. The machinery is of American manufacture.

According to The South African Journal of Industries for 1919, the replacement of cane by cotton in some parts of Zululand is being noticed by the sugar industry. A number of planters declare they find cotton a higher paying and a more promising crop than sugar cane.

NEGRO COLONIZATION.

Charlotte Observer.

Again the visionary scheme of colonization for the negroes has sprung up, being fostered in the present instance by the Free Will Methodist church, of which Rev. C. M. Maden, of Oklahoma City, is spokesman. This organization held a meeting at Evansville, Ind., this week, when the proposition was sprung in somewhat of a new form. It is not proposed to colonize the negroes in Liberia—even

the threads to that once popular fabric have been worn out—but the new idea is to herd them on a "reservation," after the manner of Indians on reservations in the West. For the needed lands the Free Will promoters go to Texas, but just what part of that Empire they have selected is not specified. Brother Madden will reveal his plans before Congress in September, and meanwhile has arranged for an interview with President Wilson on the proposition. There are just two things in the way of materialization of this dream. One is that the people of Texas might not prove neighborly. The other is that the negroes, themselves, would have a word to say in objection. If the Free Willers knew anything at all about the negro character they would know that the negroes would rise in rebellion against any sort of a scheme by which they would be segregated. The negro loves white company. The tearing of him from white association would be but to make an anarchist of him. The mistaken appeals by philanthropists in the past to give a country and a Government of his own have never appealed to his fancy. If a Republican Congress should undertake to herd him in Texas or in any other State in this country, then these same Republican Congressmen should first have a care to provide for a standing army of the size the Secretary of War has suggested—for they would shortly find themselves in need of it.

If the Germans don't like the Allied Peace terms, why not offer them those Herr Erzberger prepared for the beaten Allies?—Philadelphia North American.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE AFRICAN WORLD for August 16th gives a report of the meeting of shareholders of the National Bank of South Africa, at which the Hon. Hugh Crawford presided. In his address at this meeting the Chairman made the following interesting statements concerning conditions in South Africa:

GOLD PRODUCTION. Production in the Union in 1918 was valued at 35,758,316 pounds against 38,307,675 in 1917, a falling away of some two and a half million pounds.

OTHER MATERIALS. The diamond output during 1918, at 2,537,360 carats, valued at 7,114,862 pounds was lower than in the previous year, when 2,902,416 carats to a value of 7,713,810 were produced.

The output of tin for 1918 was less in tons, but greater in value, than in 1917, the values being 470,238 and 575,615 pounds respectively.

The output of copper in 1918 was only 6,823 tons valued at 358,627 pounds, as against 20,174 tons valued at 1,106,085 pounds in 1917.

COAL PRODUCTION. In 1918 the Union's output was 10,658,644 tons, valued at 3,483,493 pounds compared with 10,382,623 tons, valued at 3,255,659 pounds the year before.

WOOL EXPORT. During 1918 wool to a value of 9,689,630 pounds weighing 115,634,498 lbs., was exported, the 1917 figures being 117,657,142 lbs., valued at 8,782,280 pounds.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS. In the Union there are estimated to be established well upwards of 5,000 factories, representing capital to the extent of some 51,000,000 pounds. These factories are computed to absorb raw materials produced in the country to a value of 14,000,000 pounds annual-

ly, and to produce manufactured articles to a value of, say, 40,000,000 pounds annually, of which goods representing a value of about 2,000,000 pounds are exported. In this connection it is interesting to observe that in 1918 the exports of the Union were valued at 32,949,237 pounds, exclusive of native gold, which was produced to a value of nearly 36,000,000 pounds. Imports were valued at 49,487,168 pounds which shows an increase of some 11,000,000 pounds over the 1917 figures.

GERMANY'S NEED OF FOODSTUFFS AND RAW MATERIALS FROM ABROAD.

The following is a summarized list of some of the food and raw materials required to be bought abroad submitted by Germany to the Committee on Minutes of Reparation Commission.

Foodstuffs for the next four months: Fat 60,000 tons; meat 160,000 tons; cereals (including rice and dried vegetables) 800,000 tons.

Fodder for the next 12 months: Corn 1,200,000 tons; bran 600,000 tons; meal cakes 900,000 tons; barley 850,000 tons.

Raw materials for the next 2 months: East India cotton, 20,000 bales; cotton 42,000 tons; Make cotton 20,000 bales; flax 6,000 tons; soft hemp 5,000 tons; jute 15,000 tons; washed wool 1,500 tons; goat skins 500,000 pieces. (American Mission, Paris) - U. S. Commerce Reports.

PACKERS' WAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

The leading packers paid a total of \$61,351,905 for labor in 1918, compared with \$18,489,037 in 1912, an increase in six years of \$42,852,866, or 231.7 per cent. Sixteen packers in 1912 reported a total of 30,279 employees, while in 1918 the same companies reported 51,895 employees, an increase of 71.4 per cent., or 21,617 men. The average increase in the hourly wage rate between January 1, 1916, and January 1, 1919, was 132.9 per cent. The actual average wage per annum in 1912 was \$603.60, while in 1918 it increased to \$1,163.44. (Bradstreets)

Reprint from the A. P. O.

Cape Town Aug, 29th. 1919;

We have just learned of the probably early departure from our shores of one whose residence among us for a period covering over nearly twenty years has not been without profit and benefit to the Coloured and the native people of South Africa.

Arriving here during the closing days of the Boer War, and on the eve of the memorable period of reconstruction, F. Z. S. Peregrino, fortified by the experience of the political affairs of Great Britain, gained by many years of residence in that country, which was supplemented by subsequent residence in, and for some years a student of, that of the United States of America.

The usefulness of the subject of this brief pen sketch during his residence here, and the great benefits derived by the Coloured people and the Natives of South Africa as the result of his efforts, and of his labours in their behalf, none can deny, and we cannot believe that any will attempt to deny Mr. Peregrino, has, since his residence among us, taken part in any movements which were designed for the protection of the Coloured man and the Native.

For these reasons, therefore, we feel that we may with confidence suggest to our readers, and appeal to the whole of the Coloured people

and the Natives within our readers to consider favourably the idea of presenting to Mr. Peregrino a memento from the people of South Africa. Anyone desirous of doing so will please communicate with the Treasurer of the A.P.O. Mr. S. Reagon, 119 Loop Street Cape Town. Dr. Abdurahman desires to open the list with £5.